Att'y Dkt. No. US-102

U.S. App. No.: 10/716,480

REMARKS

The amendment of paragraph [0004] is a correction and clarification of citations. Applicants submit that no new matter has been entered.

The amenment of paragraph [0068] is a correction of an obvious typographical error. There is no C residue at position 597, and from the next sentence referring to the corresponding amino acid change at position 118, it is clear that it is position 623 that is changed from a C to a T. Therefore, the correction does not contain new matter and entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present patent application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration, examination, and allowance of the present patent application are respectfully requested. An early indication of the allowability of the present patent application is therefore respectfully solicited.

If the patent examiner believes that a telephone conference with the undersigned would expedite passage of the present patent application to issue, they are invited to call on the number below.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and the fees are authorized to be charged to our deposit account 50-3077.

Respectfully submitted.

By:

Shelly Guest Cermak Registration No. 39,571

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Date: <u>April 6, 2004</u>